

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0023] of the specification as follows:

“A circumferential array of angled rotor blades 58a, 58b (collectively 58) extend radially outwardly from rotor body 52. At approximately half way along the radial length of the rotor blades, an annular support ring 60 is provided, to which is fixed the drag cylinder, or rotor, 62a, 62b (collectively 62) of molecular drag pumping mechanism 18, so that the rotor blades of the turbomolecular pumping mechanism support the rotor of the molecular drag pumping mechanism.”

Please amend paragraph [0028] of the specification as follows:

“Two arrays of angled rotor blades 58a, 58b, 58c, 58d (collectively 58) extend radially outwardly from the hub of the rotor body 52 with a stator formation 72 between the arrays.”

Please amend paragraph [0029] of the specification as follows:

“In a modification of the embodiments described above, the molecular drag pumping mechanism 18 comprises more than one drag cylinder, or rotor, 62a, 62b (collectively 62) supported by the rotor blades ~~38~~58 of the turbomolecular pumping mechanism 16.”